

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line preceding paragraph 1, please cancel ~~CLAIM OF PRIORITY~~ and insert CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS, in place thereof.

Paragraph beginning at page 1, paragraph 1, please cancel ~~This application claims the benefit of provisional application serial no. 60/162,392 entitled "Method and Device for Precise Gap Control and Overlay Alignment During Semiconductor Manufacturing" filed October 29, 1999, by Byung J. Choi, Sidlgata V. Sreenivasan, and Steven C. Johnson, and U.S. patent application serial no. 09/698,317 entitled "High Precision Orientation Alignment and Gap Control Stages for Imprint Lithography Process" filed October 27, 2000, by Byung J. Choi, Sidlgata V. Sreenivasan, and Steven C. Johnson, which is incorporated by reference herein.~~ and insert in place thereof The present application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/698,317 filed on October 27, 2000 entitled "High Precision Orientation Alignment and Gap Control Stages for Imprint Lithography Process," which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/162,392 filed on October 29, 1999 entitled "Method and Device for Precise Gap Control and Overlay Alignment During Semiconductor Manufacturing," both of which are incorporated by reference herein.

REMARKS

A. Amendments to the Specification

To facilitate claiming priority, Applicants have amended the written specification. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments.

It is believed that the Preliminary Amendment filed on July 10, 2003, did not distinctly claim a priority date. Therefore, the above amendment reflects changes in the specification located in the Preliminary Amendment filed on July 10, 2003. It is believed that confusion might arrive concerning which application the present application is claiming priority from and which application the present application is a divisional of. To that end, a second preliminary amendment is filed herewith to distinctly claim priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/162,392 and also to distinctly state that the present application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/698,317. Applicants believe this will help facilitate the assigning of a priority date of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the priority date in view of the remarks made herein. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Alexandria, VA 22313

Signed: Alexis Sheffield

Typed Name: Alexis Sheffield
Date: 09/11/03

Respectfully Submitted,



Kenneth C. Brooks
Reg. No. 38,393